

\$150.00 For \$1.50.

A Golden Opportunity.

The chance of a life-time to secure one of the very best Organs on the market for only \$1.50 cash.

OUR GREAT OFFER!

The first person who gives us the correct answer to the following problem will receive from THE FREE LANCE a handsome

Chicago Cottage Organ WORTH \$150.00

Every one of the people of Virginia should know the names of her Post-offices. We give you below a list of twenty definitions of Virginia Post-offices, and simply ask you to name the offices represented by them. The first person whose correct answer we receive will get the prize.

CONDITIONS.—In order to compete for this prize, you must be a yearly paid-up subscriber. If you are not on our Subscription List, simply send us \$1.50 with your answer and become a subscriber for one year. If you are in arrears on your subscription, pay up, and you can enter the contest. The contest will close on MONDAY, June 24, at 12 M. sharp, and no answer will be received after that time.

DIRECTIONS.—All answers must be placed in sealed envelopes. In answering simply write number and name of postoffice, thus: "21—Richmond," and so on. After you have answered all of the twenty, sign your name and postoffice address at the bottom of the paper, fold it up and place it in a sealed envelope; don't put anything else in this envelope. Write us a note telling us that you are sending us enclosed a solution to our problem, and if you send money order also, put note, money order and sealed envelope together in a larger envelope and address the larger envelope to "THE FREE LANCE, Fredericksburg, Va."

The smaller envelopes will be numbered and placed on file until June 24, 1902, when a committee of three leading citizens will be asked to open all sealed envelopes in the order in which they were received and name the winner of the prize. The winner's name will be published in THE FREE LANCE'S issue of June 24, 1902.

Through the kindness of Mr. C. W. Jones, the well-known Main street merchant, this handsome Organ will be placed on exhibition in one of his splendid store windows so that all "Doubting Thomases" may see that we mean just what we say when we call this Organ a fine instrument.

Address all letters to

## THE LIST.

1. I am the bushy tail of a fox.
2. I am a collection of maps.
3. I am the back and sides of a smoked pig.
4. I am always benevolent.
5. I am an old joke.
6. I am a popular beverage.
7. I am necessary to a wedding.
8. I am a game of 28 pieces.
9. Merchants send me to their debtors.
10. I am only a small spot.
11. I am frozen dew.
12. I am a cover for the hand.
13. I am first finger on every perfect hand.
14. I am one of Virginia's staple crops.
15. I am a part of a door.
16. I am eight quarts.
17. I am courage itself.
18. I am next officer above a captain.
19. I am the top of a mountain.
20. I am the last.

## THE FREE LANCE.

Organ Department.

Fredericksburg, Va.

### The Sheltering Hand

that protects your family when your home has been destroyed by fire is an

### Insurance

policy in the Hartford Fire Insurance Co. It will build and rehabilitate you in a new domicile quickly, and the friend in need that tells. Let us insure you. The premium is low and the benefit large in case of accident.

GEO. C. BALL, Successor to S. Willis Howard, 308 Commerce St.

## Do You Plant Seed?

It so save money and get the Best at

## Johnston & Pearson's

Drug Store.

## W.M. WILLSON & CO

WHOLESALE and COMMISSION

## N. C. and Va. Pine Lumber

501 East Falls Avenue, Baltimore, Md

Cargoes and Carload Lots. Correspondence and Consignments Solicited

Established 1869

## MILLER & ROLLER,

Commission Merchants.

927 and 929 Louisiana Ave., N. W., Washington, D. C. Specialties—Poultry, Eggs, Butter, Consignments and Correspondence solicited. References—C. A. James, President National Bank of Washington, D. C.; Lewis Johnson & Co., Bankers, Washington, D. C.; J. A. Ruff, Cashier Central National Bank of Washington, D. C.

## KESTER BROS.

General Produce Commission Merchants.

For the sale of Fruits, Vegetables, Eggs, Poultry, Game, Live Stock, Etc., 937 La. Ave., Washington, D. C. References—Lincoln National Bank, Washington, D. C. and all Express, R. R. Companies and Business Men Generally.

Established 1883

## D. W. BALLINGER,

General Commission Merchant.

218, 10th Street, N. W., Washington, D. C. Reference—Lincoln National Bank.

Quick Sales, Prompt Returns.

Spring Chickens, Eggs, Calves, etc., daily. Highest Market Prices obtained. Write for quotations.

## Walter Duckett & Co.,

Produce Commission Merchants.

Live Stock, Butter, Eggs, Poultry, Etc. Correspondence and Consignments solicited. Reference—Central National Bank, Washington, D. C. No. 931 B Street, N. W., Washington, D. C.

## J. M. BRIAN, 3RD.

203 McKim's Wharf, Baltimore, Md

Armour's Animal Fertilizers, Baskets, Berry Crates, Farm Implements, Etc., Clark's Cutaway Disc Harrows, Orchard Plows, P. P. Mott & Co.'s Buckeye Drills, Buckeye Cultivators. Correspondence solicited.

## J. W. BEASLEY,

Wholesale Commission Merchant.

202, 10th St., N. W., Washington, D. C. Eggs, Butter, Chickens, Turkeys, Game, Calves, Beef, Pork Consignments. Reference—Traders National Bank, Wash., D. C.

### Book Plates.

The question of the use of the family book of arms vexes the American very seriously. Originally all book plates were heraldic. That was in an age when people generally could not read and when the blazon of each family, as shown on wearing apparel or small belongings, was as well known and quickly distinguished as an autograph or photograph today. In the main, it is safe to advise Americans not to use coat armor on their book plates. The uncertainty of the actual right to arms and the extreme difficulty of getting a drawing that one knows is undeniably correct in every detail are strong reasons against its use. Heraldry is too exact a science to admit of liberties, and it is no small achievement to draw the coat of arms with absolute correctness and yet with artistic feeling.

Though it is not very generally practiced, it is legal to copyright the book plate design. At least two plates are so protected in this country. This would seem to leave a door open for those who wish to secure for themselves a personal distinguishing mark, a quasi-heraldry, for the drawing may be in heraldic form as well as in any other.

### Wanted Crude Eggs.

"Bring me crude eggs, shredded wheat biscuits and a glass of milk," said the man on the Boston boat.

"Yes, sah," replied the waiter. "What kind of eggs was them, sah?"

"Crude eggs?"

"Yes, sah, yes, sah," repeated the man, walking away with a perplexed expression. Shortly he returned. "We ain't got them eggs, sah, but we's got 'em boiled, fried, poached an' scrambled, very nice, sah."

"No, no," protested the Boston man. "I want them crude, raw."

"Oh," gasped the waiter, "you want 'em raw?"

"Certainly."

Having brought them, the waiter looked on curiously while the man broke the yolks of the eggs over the shredded biscuit and stirred the whites up in the milk. "Dat's one of dem food cranks," reported the waiter to the next table.—New York Press.

### Tree That Turns to Stone.

There is a tree that grows in Mexico called the "chiljol," or stone tree. It is of enormous proportions, both in circumference and height. It has a number of branches spreading out widely and carrying leaves of a yellowish green color. The wood is extremely hard and easily worked in a green state. It is not given to either warping or splitting. The most remarkable thing about it is that after being cut the wood gets gradually harder, and in the course of a few years it is absolutely petrified whether left in the open air or buried in the ground. From this timber houses can be built that would in a few years become completely fireproof and would last as though built of stone.

### First Railroad Charter.

The first charter ever granted in this country or probably any other for the building of a railroad was granted in 1819 to Henry Drinker by the Pennsylvania legislature for a road of that kind from the Delaware valley to the headwaters of the Lehigh river over the route now occupied by the Delaware, Lackawanna and Western railroad from the Water Gap to Scranton. That was before the days of steam, and the "wagons" that were to be run on the road were to be moved by horse power. That old charter and the rights it conveyed were purchased by the original Delaware and Lackawanna company for \$1,000.

### Teek the Second Man.

One evening recently a well to do bachelor volunteered to teach a sprightly young widow the game of checkers. He quite overlooked the possibilities of the game.

"There, how; it's still your move," he exclaimed to the lady shortly after the game had commenced. "You have taken only one man, and you are bound to take another."

"Thanks for your advice," said the widow sweetly. "Suppose I take you, then?"

She did subsequently.

### Titles.

Give a Georgia dandy a "chaw" of tobacco and you're a c'n.

Give him a quarter and you become a colonel.

Paralyze him with a dollar and you are a general for life.

Throw in an old suit of clothes and two stiff drams of corn liquor and he raises all his children to call you governor.—Atlanta Constitution.

### A Costly Prayer Book.

Queen Elizabeth used to carry about with her suspended by a chain of pure gold a book called "The Golden Manual of Prayer," a dainty volume of 300 pages, bound in "hammered virgin gold." One side of this costly volume gave a representation of the judgment of Solomon, the other the brazen serpent on the cross in the desert.

### A Fad and a Cult.

A Boston editor, asked to define the difference between a cult and a fad, rose to the emergency in this manner: "A fad is anything that arouses evanescent mentality, while a cult is anything that inspires permanent mentality."

### Extenuation.

Visitor: That painting is by an old master, I see.

Mrs. McShoddie (apologetically)—Yes, but the frame is new.—New York Weekly.

No one can read the Bible out loud in the same voice in which he would read a selection from a newspaper.—Acheson Globe.

### Beware Of A Cough.

A cough is not a disease but a symptom of consumption and bronchitis, which are the most dangerous and fatal diseases, have for their first indication a persistent cough, and if properly treated as soon as this cough appears are easily cured. Chamberlain's Cough Remedy has proven wonderfully successful, and gained its wide reputation and extensive sale by its success in curing the diseases which cause coughing. If it is not beneficial it will not cost you a cent. For sale by F. M. M. Lewis, druggist.

## The Free Lance

THURSDAY, MAY 8, 1902

### An Ingenious Restrap.

The Mexicans in California had an ingenious method of trapping bears before the advent of the Yankees brought modern firearms into the region. A piece of meat was nailed to the stout horizontal limb of an oak tree. From a limb five or six feet above a rope was suspended, to the end of which a large stone was made fast so that it hung about six inches above and a trifle nearer the trunk than the meat on the lower limb.

When a bear smelled the meat from afar, he would climb up the tree and unhook his way to the bait. In doing so he would push the stone pendulum to one side. Just as he was about to fasten his teeth in the meat the stone would swing back and bang his head. This would arouse the anger of the bear, and he would give the stone a sweep of his paw which would send it swinging farther out. The consequence was a harder bang and more anger. The more he struck the stone the harder he would be hit in return until from furious anger he would lose his caution and attack the pendulum with all his vigor. One powerful sweep, then bang! and brain would be tumbled out of the tree to the rocks below, where, disabled by his fall, he would be at the mercy of those who set the trap whenever they chose to take him.

### The Disadvantages of Heroism.

It would be a good thing if in our public school courses in heroism to teach the boys and girls that, after all, while heroism is a fine thing and a great thing, it is a most uncomfortable thing and that possibly, on the whole, the best and most lasting work that is accomplished in life comes from a steady application of all one's best energies to a noble purpose, meeting with honest and patient effort the emergencies and vexations of daily life and holding true to the middle course, which assures success without bringing notoriety. A fixed purpose to do well that which one has to do will in the end bring laurels of more permanent value to the world at large and to the unheralded hand that achieves its purpose than those which are even worthily bestowed upon the brow of him who avails himself of an unusual chance in an abnormal fashion.—Harper's Weekly.

### Smothered in Roses.

The Sybarites slept on beds stuffed with rose leaves; the tyrant Dionysius had his couch filled with them; Venus would travel with a garland on his head and around his neck, and over his litter he had a thin net, with rose leaves intertwined; Antiochus luxuriated upon a bed of blooms even in winter days and nights, and when Cleopatra entertained Antony she had roses covering the floor to the depth, it is said, of an ell.

We are told that Heliozabalus supplied so many at one of his banquets that several of his guests were suffocated in the endeavor to extricate themselves from the abundance—victims of a surfeit of sweet odors.

### Swift Wings.

It is difficult to account for the enormous velocity of some birds' flight when migrating. The northern blue throat goes at the rate of 540 miles an hour, flying 4,800 miles from Egypt to Heligoland in a spring night of barely nine hours. Virginian plover fly from Labrador to north Brazil, 9,600 miles, without stopping, going at the rate of 636 miles an hour and probably more. How can this speed be attained? The birds resort to great heights, where the resistance of the air is slight.

### Living in a Crater.

There is no more interesting or curious sight on this earth than the interior of the extinct crater, Aso San, about thirty miles from the city of Kumamoto, in Japan. This peculiar locality is inhabited by 20,000 people, who live and prosper within its vertical wall 800 feet high. The inhabitants rarely make a journey into the outer world, but form, as it were, a little nation by themselves.

### How Greeley Learned to Read.

By a singular adaptation to the changes of motion on his mother's part while explaining Horace Greeley when a youngster acquired the unwanted quality of reading with the book in almost any position, sidewise or upside down, as readily as in the usual fashion without at that time thinking it anything unusual.

### Aching Voids.

"Brooks," said Rivers, "that's the second time I've heard you use the phrase 'aching void.' I wish you would tell me how a void can ache."

"Well," said Brooks, reflecting a moment, "not to speak of a hollow tooth, don't you sometimes have the headache?"—Chicago Tribune.

### There Was No Music.

"What is the greatest fib that ever impressed itself on your experience, Snapper?"

"Well, by all odds, the worst one I ever heard was that your quartet performed last night when they came round to the house and sang, 'There's Music in the Air.'"

### The Value of Science.

Science is a first rate piece of furniture for a man's upper chamber if he has common sense on the ground floor, but if a man hasn't plenty of good common sense the more science he has the worse for the patient.—Oliver Wendell Holmes.

### Teeth.

Bobby—My gran'ma's so old she ain't got a tooth in her head.

Tommy—Ain't she? Well, mebbe they're in her bureau drawer, like my Aunt 'Tillie's is sometimes.—Philadelphia Bulletin.

## E. W. Linn

This signature is on every box of the genuine laxative Bromo-Quinine Tablets the remedy that cures a cold in one day

### How Convicts Kill Time.

It is at once interesting and pathetic to go through the cells of the eastern penitentiary and to note the objects which, with tedious pains, the prisoners have made to while the time away. Here a mantel will be hung with a lambeau elaborately fringed, the fine knots and delicate patterns of the threads comparing with the work of the French lacemakers. The lambeau is of an old blue hue, and the visitor is told that it is made of an old pair of prison trousers.

On a little gilt bracket is a small stuffed animal. The bracket, so delicately turned, is of newspapers pasted together and gilded, and the animal is a rat, caught in a homemade trap, stuffed with rags and with pieces of chewing gum colored with shoeblack for its eyes.

A wall is completely covered with a really artistic decoration of reeds, on which are perched at least 200 birds, each accurately colored and drawn. There are also numberless checkerboards and sets of chessmen that in the delicacy of their inlay work and in the intricacy of their carving would do honor to the craftsmen of the orient.—Philadelphia Record.

### A Rare Drug.

The price of many drugs used in medicine is astonishing to those who are not acquainted with the subject," remarked a druggist to a Philadelphia Times representative. "There are several that are worth their weight in gold (about \$20 an ounce), while \$2, \$3 and \$5 an ounce are quite common prices in pharmacy. But there is one drug that I can recall which is worth more than its weight in gold. This is pseudo physostigmine. I don't think that it has a popular name. It is too rich for that. In the pharmacists' list it is quoted at \$1 a grain, or \$437.50 an ounce. The seed from which the drug is made grows in India and Brazil, as well as in parts of South Africa. This seed, tradition says, was once used by native chiefs as an ordeal. The ordeal generally resulted in the death of the man upon whom it was tried and so it was considered as a great truth finder. The prepared drug is sometimes used now in prescriptions for the treatment of heart disease."

### First English Book on Sport.

The first book on sport ever printed in the English language was a rhymed treatise called the "Boke of St. Albans." Its author being a woman, Dame Juliana Berners, its second edition was printed by Wynken de Worde in 1496. A descendant of her family, Lord Berners, was the translator of Froissart's "Chronicles." It is true that old manuscripts existed, such as the "Venerie de Twyce" of the time of Edward II, but it was Dame Juliana who was the real ancestress of sporting literature in England, for she also composed an essay on hawkling and another on "Fishing With an Angle," the last being of such excellence that Isaac Walton himself did not disdain to take a hint from its pages.

### "Eating Crow."

The term "eating crow" comes from an ante Revolutionary story. A soldier of an English regiment stationed in Virginia shot a pet crow belonging to a farmer. The latter entered a complaint with the colonel, who sentenced the soldier to eat the crow. The farmer was left alone with the soldier to see that he did it. After the soldier had consumed a portion of the bird he took his gun, presented it at the farmer and told him to eat the remainder of the crow or he would shoot him. This was the origin of the eating crow story.

### University of Athens.

The University of Athens is very old. It is conducted on the German plan. Most of the professors are graduates of German universities, and the German language is heard about the building more frequently than any other except Greek. The institution has a large amount of property, and several of the chairs have been handsomely endowed by private individuals.

### The Poisonous Poppy.

In Turkey if a man falls asleep in the neighborhood of a poppy field and the wind blows from the field toward him, he becomes narcotized and would die if the country people, who are well acquainted with the circumstances, did not bring him to a well or stream and empty pitcher after pitcher of water on his face and body.

### Method In His Deceit.

"I thought you said you were going to bring a friend home to dinner," said Mrs. Skimpy to her husband.

"He couldn't come, Anna," replied Mr. Skimpy as he sat down with great satisfaction to the first good dinner he had had a chance to attack for a long time.

### What Disturbed Him.

Miggles—I hear you upset a plate of soup on Miss Smith's gown at dinner last night.

Wiggles—Yes, and it was awfully embarrassing. You know it isn't polite to ask for a second plate of soup.—Chicago News.

### Parr and Erskine.

Dr. Parr on meeting Lord Chancellor Erskine, with whom he was friendly, once said, "Erskine, I mean to write your epitaph when you die."

"Doctor," answered the great lawyer, "it is almost a temptation to commit suicide."

### Their Single Thought.

Hook—That young married couple appear to be two sons with but a single thought.

Nye—Yes. He thinks he's the only thing on earth, and she agrees with him.—Philadelphia Record.

## WAGNER'S 'GREEN HOUSE'

Restaurant.

12 and 14 E. Pratt St.

BALTIMORE, MD.

Dining Rooms for Ladies.

## 13th Year

This has been our banner year and we have done more business than ever before. We have the confidence of the people, and a proof of it is the increase of our trade. "Pure goods, lowest value and full measure are the motto of it." Our stock is the largest, purest and best selected in the State, and we can satisfy the wants of everybody.

Our Canada Rye at \$3.00 is the finest medium whiskey on the market. Farmer's Blend, Tenderloin Rye, Kentucky Club Rye, King of Kentucky Rye, White Rye and Col. Rye, all at \$2.00 per gallon, have no equal. Blue Ribbon \$1.50, Apple Blossom \$1.75, Choke Rye \$1.50, and Golden Star \$1.20 per gal. Apple Brandy, \$2.00 and \$3.00, Peach, Blackberry, California, French and Cherry Brandy, \$1.00, New England and Jamaica Rum, \$1.00 and \$1.25.

A TRIAL WILL CONVINCE YOU.

## STRASBURGER & SON,

The One Price Liquor and Tobacco House.

FURS WANTED.

215, 215 1/2 10th St., Fredericksburg, Va.

## PURITY ASSURED

- 1st. It is pure.
- 2nd. It is old and mellow.
- 3rd. It is sold only in sealed packages so you may be sure to obtain it in its original purity.
- 4th. Sold by J. A. ARMSTRONG, Fredericksburg, Va.

## LOOK FOR THE BIRD ON THE BOTTLE

## BLUE BIRD WHISKEY

## Bell of Lexington

—the finest whiskey on earth. Hand made, stout mash, copper distilled, with no artificial flavors. None better for table and medicinal use. 12 years old, \$3 per gallon; 4 years old, \$2 per gallon. I handle the famous Schmidt's beer, the most healthy drink for warm weather. I also keep in stock a fine line of wines, cigars and brandies, cigars and tobacco. Thank you for your liberal patronage in the past, and hoping to merit a continuance of same, I am, Most respectfully,  
J. T. HARRIS  
"Old Backet Harris" Stand.

### LIQUORS, CIGARS, GROCERIES.

Mrs. J. F. MONROE, 313 Commerce St., Fredericksburg, Va. keep the largest and most varied stock of Wines and Liquors in the city. She can furnish you Whiskey at prices from \$1.40 to \$4 per gallon. It includes Star A. Kentucky Rye, Live Oak, Old Baltimore, King Lear, Jefferson, Co. Rye, Wigwam, Indian Hill and many others. Wines of every description, Apple Brandy \$2.50 to \$4 per gallon. A full line of Cigars and Tobacco, Groceries, etc.

## FINE TEAS.

Wines and Liquors. Pure Rye Whiskey, Pure Old Rum, Pure Holland Gin, Pure Cherry Wine, Pure French Brandy, Pure Apple Brandy, Pure Peach Brandy, Pure Blackberry Brandy. A complete stock of Liquors for medicinal use, at the Old Reliable Grocery Store of

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—WHOLESALE AND RETAIL—

GROCERS AND LIQUOR DEALERS. Offer Ten Thousand Gallons PURE RYE and WHISKY, from the following well known distillers, at the following prices: Boone County Distilling Co., of Kentucky, \$1.00; Maryland, and W. F. Gray, of Pennsylvania.

Agents for Berger & Engle's Lager Beer. They also offer Staple and Fancy Groceries, Agricultural Implements, Seeds, Grain, and Canned Goods.

## Royal Velvet,

the famous Kentucky Whiskey, positively the best for family use. One quality, one price—\$4 per gallon. Jefferson County, at the price, has no equal—\$2 per gallon. For sale only by MRS. J. F. MONROE, Fredericksburg, Va.

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GENERAL COMMISSION MERCHANT.

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Dealer in RAILROAD CROSS TIES, CHAIR POSTS, SPOKES AND HOOPS. Keeps constantly on hand a large supply of Baled Hay and Mill Feed. Office near Railroad Depot, Fredericksburg, Va.

Established in 1892. Experience since 1870.

## DAVIS & DAVIS,

(Members Chamber of Commerce.)

GENERAL COMMISSION MERCHANTS

Largest receivers in Baltimore of Black Eye, Black and Shiny Peas. We have been